Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 4 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Reference is made to commonly assigned U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/213,637 filed December 17, 1998 by Couwenhoven, et al., now U.S. Patent No. 6,407,825, the disclosure of which is herein incorporated by reference.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 15 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--U.S. Patent No. 5,012,257 to Lowe et al. describes a "superpixel" printing strategy to reduce bleed across color field boundaries. This strategy limits printing to no more than two drops of ink per cell or pixel, and no more than a total of three drops per superpixel, where a superpixel consists of a 2x2 array of pixel cells. This strategy controls bleed, but at a penalty in terms of color and spatial ~~resoLUTion~~ resolution.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 11 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Referring to FIG.1, a generic image processing algorithm chain is shown for an inkjet printer in which a raster image processor 10 receives digital image data in the form of an input image from a digital image source 12 which may be a host computer, network, computer memory, or other digital image storage device. The raster image processor 10 applies imaging algorithms to produce a processed digital image signal having input code values i(x,y,c), where x,y are the spatial coordinates of the pixel location, and c is the color channel coordinate. In one embodiment of the present invention, c has values 0,1,2,3 corresponding to ~~C,M,Y,Kcolor~~ C, M, Y, K color channels. In another embodiment of the present invention, the input image is an RGB image and the values for c are 0,1,2. The types of imaging algorithms applied in the raster image processor 10 typically include sharpening (sometimes called "unsharp masking" or "edge enhancement"), color conversion (converts from the source image color space, typically RGB, to the CMYK color space of the printer),

resizing (or spatial interpolation), and others. The imaging algorithms that are applied in the raster image processor 10 can vary depending on the application, and are not fundamental to the present invention.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 28 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Following the raster image processor 10 of FIG.1 is an ink depletion processor 20, which receives the input code value i(x,y,c) and a total colorant amount limit V_t, and produces a depleted image signal having output code values o(x,y,c). The total colorant amount limit V_t is provided by a total colorant amount limit adjustor 22, which is typically adjusted by the user to provide acceptable image quality for a given ink and receiver media combination. The ink depletion processor 20 performs the function of reducing the total colorant amount (per pixel, or per unit area) below the specified limit V_t to prevent image artifacts from occurring. There are many different methods presented in the prior art to accomplish this, and the particular algorithm used in the ink depletion processor is not fundamental to the invention. In a preferred embodiment of the present invention, the algorithm used in the ink depletion processor is disclosed in commonly assigned U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/213,637 filed December 17, 1998 by Couwenhoven, et al., now U.S. Patent No. 6,407,825, the disclosure of which is herein incorporated by reference. This disclosure teaches a method of turning off pixels in an image region having excess colorant in response to a spatially periodic dither signal. The dither signal is constructed to have "blue noise" characteristics that have minimal visibility to the human eye.--